US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District

ILLINOIS RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY NEWSLETTER

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

November 2003

CORPS OF ENGINEERS & DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SCHEDULE PUBLIC MEETINGS

The public is invited to attend one of a series of public meetings in December to learn about the goals and alternatives being considered to restore the ecosystem in the Illinois River Basin. See page 6 for public meeting details.

This newsletter is the second newsletter for the Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. The purpose of this newsletter is to report on the efforts and findings of the study team during the last three years and to invite the public to attend a December public meeting.

STUDY BACKGROUND

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources entered into a feasibility study cost-sharing agreement in August 2000 and became "partners" in a combined effort to identify opportunities to implement ecosystem restoration and to evaluate recommendations made in the State of Illinois' *Integrated Management Plan for the Illinois River Watershed* and determine if there is a Federal interest (environmental benefits exceeding costs) in their implementation. This effort has since been expanded as specified in the Illinois River Basin Restoration authority provided in Section 519 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2000.

Additional information on the Illinois River efforts can be found on the Rock Island District webpage at: http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/ILRiverEco/default.htm

STUDY TEAM DEVELOPS VISION AND MILESTONES FOR RESTORATION

The Illinois River Basin has experienced the loss of ecological integrity due to sedimentation of backwaters and side channels, degradation of tributary streams, increased water level fluctuations, reduction of floodplain and tributary connectivity, and other adverse impacts caused by human activities. A restoration vision was developed for the Illinois River in 1997 as part of the development of the State of Illinois' *Integrated Management Plan for the Illinois River Watershed.* The vision is for:

> *A naturally diverse and productive Illinois River Basin that is sustainable by natural ecological processes and managed to provide for compatible social and economic activities.*

This vision for the Illinois River Basin has been accepted by the Federal, State, and local stakeholders involved in the development of the Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration and Illinois River Basin Restoration programs. With the *Integrated Management Plan* providing context, the following list of Illinois River Basin system-wide ecosystem restoration goals were developed during the Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration Study (not listed in priority order, except for the first goal):

1. Maintain and restore biodiversity and sustainable populations of native species;
2. Reduce sediment delivery to the Illinois River from upland areas and tributary channels with the aim of eliminating excessive sediment load;
3. Restore aquatic habitat diversity of side channels and backwaters, including Peoria Lakes, to provide adequate volume and depth for sustaining native fish and wildlife communities;
4. Improve floodplain, riparian, and aquatic habitats and functions;
5. Restore and maintain longitudinal connectivity (fish passage at dams) on the Illinois River and its tributaries, where appropriate, to restore or maintain healthy populations of native species;
6. Naturalize Illinois River and tributary hydrologic regimes to reduce the incidence of water level conditions that degrade aquatic and riparian habitat; and
7. Improve water and sediment quality in the Illinois River and its watershed.

STUDY TEAM LOOKS AT VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES

The study team has developed various draft alternatives which will address the loss of fish and wildlife habitat.

Developing system alternatives started by considering the measures available (e.g., bed and bank stabilization, backwater dredging, wetland creation, etc.) to address the problems and objectives developed under each goal category. For each of the measures, the relative cost and system benefits were

identified. This information could then be used to put together various alternative plans for each goal (i.e., combining benefits and costs for a certain amount of bed and bank stabilization, water and sediment retention basins, etc., in putting together a plan for sediment reduction). At this level of analysis, the various measures were evaluated, comparing their costs and benefits. The screening resulted in the alternatives being developed from the most cost-effective measures.

The system alternatives were constructed to identify the system restoration needs over 50 years by combining the alternatives developed for each of the goal categories. These were generally assembled by level of effort (increasing cost), with some plans representing relatively equal amounts of work under each of the goal categories and some alternatives emphasizing various goal categories more heavily.

In total, eight draft alternatives (including the No Action alternative) were formulated to provide a range of restoration. In particular, a number of the alternatives were formulated to provide specific frames of reference. Alternative 2 was developed to show what types of actions and level of investment would be required to essentially maintain the current physical habitat conditions. Alternatives 6 and 7 represent various levels of the desired future conditions that would bring overall system improvement. The other alternatives provide options with varying emphasis.

The eight draft system alternatives are listed below describing restoration needs over 50 years and cost estimates for an initial 10-year authorization. Any restoration would be cost-shared 65 percent Federal and 35 percent State. In addition, a summary matrix of the benefits is included as an insert to this newsletter.

Description of System Alternatives: The following descriptions explain the system alternatives by describing the benefits associated with each goal category.

No Action – (Anticipated future condition, assuming no new efforts are undertaken as a result of this study.)

- Biodiversity – Continued decline in system biodiversity and populations of native species, resulting from continued habitat loss and fragmentation, altered natural disturbance regimes, and continued invasive species colonization.
- Sediment Delivery – Some increase in delivery due to continued landscape alterations, increased impervious surfaces and resulting runoff, and continued channel instability due to prior alterations.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Continuation of historic loss of backwaters at an annual rate of 1-2% of volume and surface area, or a 60% loss of backwaters over 50 years. Further degradation of side channels due to island erosion and channel sedimentation.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Relatively minor changes in floodplain areas with some increased degradation of riparian and aquatic habitats due to urbanization and land use changes.
- Connectivity – No significant change in the number of dams blocking fish and aquatic species migration. Some local fish passage initiatives are currently underway.
- Water Level – Continuation of current levels of altered hydrology, with some trends towards increased numbers of fluctuations due to continued land use changes.
- Water Quality – Minor improvements in water quality due to regulation and improvements in best management practices (BMPs).
- Cost – No additional cost.

Alternative 1 –

- Biodiversity – Continued decline in system biodiversity and populations of native species. However, in areas of focused restoration efforts, there would be regional improvements.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries exclusively. Sediment delivery would be reduced by approximately 20% from these watersheds. Estimates were based on 75% of practices focusing on in-channel features and 25% on upland areas. System benefits include reduced delivery of 6.3% to Peoria Lakes and 2.3% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 3,600 acres in 40 of the approximate 100 backwaters. Dredging would range from 10–200 acres per backwater, with 10 backwaters dredged to the optimal level (40% of backwater area). This would create some overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 7 miles along the system, and optimal areas every 28 miles. Restoration of 10 side channels and protection of 10 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 5,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 1% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 2,100 acres wetlands, 1,700 acres forest, and 1,200 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 5,000 acres (approximately 0.6% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 3,200 acres wetlands, 900 acres forest, and 900 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 25 miles of tributary streams (0.8% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – No change – same as without project.
- Water Level – Create 20,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Results include a 1.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and no discernable reduction in fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River.
- Water Quality – Anticipate minor improvements in water quality; however, no significant improvements due to ecosystem restoration efforts are anticipated. Sediments and nutrient inputs to the river, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, will not decline at the system level. Some improvements may be seen at the

local or regional level resulting from sediment delivery reduction measures.

- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $250 million; $165 million Federal, and $85 million State.

Alternative 2 –

- Biodiversity – Maintains current habitat conditions. However, at this level, some decline in system biodiversity would still occur, especially for populations of native species that are currently declining or sensitive to continued habitat fragmentation, such as area-sensitive species.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries with some efforts on tributaries downstream. On average, sediment contributions reduced by 40% from the direct Peoria Lakes tributaries and 0.5% in the downstream tributaries. Estimates were based on 75% of practices focusing on in-channel features, and 25% on upland areas. System benefits include reduced delivery of 12.5% to Peoria Lakes and 5% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 6,100 acres from 60 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would range from 10–200 acres per backwater, with 20 backwaters dredged to the optimal level (40% of backwater area). This would create some overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 5 miles along the system, and optimal areas every 14 miles. Restoration of 20 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 5,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 1% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 2,100 acres wetlands, 1,700 acres forest, and 1,200 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 10,000 acres (approximately 1.2% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 6,300 acres wetlands, 1,900 acres forest, and 1,800 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 50 miles of tributary streams (1.6% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – No change – same as without project.
- Water Level – Create 30,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Results include a 2.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and no discernable reduction in fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River.
- Water Quality – Anticipate some additional improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment and phosphorus delivery. Some improvements may be seen at the local or regional level resulting from sediment delivery reduction measures.
- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $400 million; $260 million Federal, and $140 million State.

Alternative 3 -

- Biodiversity – Begins to improve the current habitat conditions at the system level, with increased focus on ecosystem integrity. This plan would result in increases in backwater habitat, reduced sediment delivery, and additional mainstem and tributary floodplain restoration.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce sediment delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries by 40%, other tributaries upstream of Peoria Lakes by 11%, and tributaries downstream of Peoria Lakes by 4%. System benefits include reduced delivery of 20% to Peoria Lakes and 10% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 8,600 acres from 60 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would range from 10–200 acres per backwater, with 40 backwaters dredged to the optimal level (40% of backwater area). This would create some overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 5 miles along the system, and optimal areas every 7 miles. Restoration of 30 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 20,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 7.9% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 8,400 acres wetlands, 6,800 acres forest, and 4,800 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 20,000 acres (approximately 2.3% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 12,600 acres wetlands, 3,800 acres forest, and 3,600 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 100 miles of tributary streams (3.3% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – Provide fish passage at all mainstem dams on the Fox River, all dams on the West Branch of the DuPage River, and all mainstem dams and one tributary (Salt Creek) of the Des Plaines River.
- Water Level – Create 30,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Increase intensity of water level management at navigation dams through electronic controls and increased gaging. Results include a 2.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and approximately a 64% reduction in the occurrence of one-foot fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River.
- Water Quality – Anticipate some additional improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen delivery. These improvements would primarily result from sediment delivery reduction measures, with some benefits from water level management measures.
- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $700 million; $455 million Federal, and $245 million State.

Alternative 4 -

- Biodiversity – Begins to improve the current habitat conditions at the system level, with increased focus on tributary ecosystem integrity and secondary effects to mainstem habitats. This plan would result in sediment delivery reduction, tributary floodplain and stream restoration, increased fish passage, and more naturalized water levels.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce sediment delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries by 40%, other tributaries upstream of Peoria Lakes by 11%, and tributaries downstream of Peoria Lakes by 4%. System benefits include reduced delivery of 20% to Peoria Lakes and 10% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 6,100 acres from 60 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would range from 10–200 acres per backwater, with 20 backwaters dredged to the optimal level (40% of backwater area). This would create some overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 5 miles along the system, and optimal areas every 14 miles. Restoration of 20 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 5,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 1% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 2,100 acres wetlands, 1,700 acres forest, and 1,200 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 20,000 acres (approximately 2.3% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 12,600 acres wetlands, 3,800 acres forest, and 3,600 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 100 miles of tributary streams (3.3% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – Provide fish passage at all mainstem dams on the Fox River, all dams on the West Branch of the DuPage River, all mainstem dams and one tributary (Salt Creek) of the Des Plaines River, Wilmington and Kankakee Dams on the Kankakee River, Bernadotte Dam on the Spoon River, and the Aux Sable Dam.
- Water Level – Create 107,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Increase intensity of water level management at navigation dams through electronic controls and increased gaging. Results include a 7.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and approximately a 64% reduction in the occurrence of one-foot fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River.
- Water Quality – Anticipate improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen delivery. These improvements would result from sediment delivery reduction measures and water level management measures.
- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $850 million; $555 million Federal, and $295 million State.

Alternative 5 –

- Biodiversity – Improves the amount of current habitats and their function at the system level. No further declines in system biodiversity are foreseen at this level of restoration. System health and ecological integrity are stable or improving.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce sediment delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries by 40%, other tributaries upstream of Peoria Lakes by 11%, and tributaries downstream of Peoria Lakes by 4%. System benefits include reduced delivery of 20% to Peoria Lakes and 10% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 8,600 acres from 60 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would range from 10–200 acres per backwater, with 40 backwaters dredged to the optimal level (40% of backwater area). This would create some overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 5 miles along the system, and optimal areas every 7 miles. Restoration of 30 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 40,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 7.9% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 16,800 acres wetlands, 9,600 acres forest, and 13,600 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 40,000 acres (approximately 4.6% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 25,200 acres wetlands, 7,200 acres forest, and 7,600 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 250 miles of tributary streams (8.3% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – Provide fish passage at all mainstem dams on the Fox River, all dams on the West Branch of the DuPage River, all mainstem dams and one tributary (Salt Creek) of the Des Plaines River, Wilmington and Kankakee Dams on the Kankakee River, Bernadotte Dam on the Spoon River, and the Aux Sable Dam.
- Water Level – Create 107,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Increase water level management at navigation dams with electronic controls and increased gaging. Results include a 7.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and approximately a 64% reduction in the occurrence of one-foot fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River.
- Water Quality – Anticipate improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen delivery. These improvements would result from sediment delivery reduction measures and water level management measures.
- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $1,150 million; $750 million Federal, and $400 million State.

Alternative 6 –

- Biodiversity – Restoration would provide a measurable increase in level of ecosystem restoration and ecological integrity at the system level.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce sediment delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries by 40%, other tributaries upstream of Peoria Lakes by 11%, and tributaries downstream of Peoria Lakes by 20%. System benefits include reduced delivery of 20% to Peoria Lakes and 20% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 12,000 acres from 60 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would average 200 acres per backwater, the optimal level of 40% of the approximate 500-acre average backwater area. This would create optimal backwater and over-wintering habitat spaced approximately every 5 miles along the system. Restoration of 35 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 75,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 14.9% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 31,700 acres wetlands, 25,300 acres forest, and 18,000 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 75,000 acres (approximately 8.8% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 47,600 acres wetlands, 13,900 acres forest, and 13,500 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 500 miles of tributary streams (16.6% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – Provide fish passage at all mainstem dams on the Fox River, all dams on the West Branch of the DuPage River, all mainstem dams and one tributary (Salt Creek) of the Des Plaines River, Wilmington and Kankakee Dams on the Kankakee River, Bernadotte Dam on the Spoon River, and the Aux Sable Dam.
- Water Level – Create 107,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Increase water level management at navigation dams with electronic controls and increased gaging. Results include a 7.5% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and approximately a 64% reduction in the occurrence of one-foot fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River. This alternative also would see benefits accrue from drawdowns in LaGrange or Peoria Pools.
- Water Quality – Anticipate improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen delivery. These improvements would result from sediment delivery reduction measures and water level management measures.
- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $1,750 million; $1,140 million Federal, and $610 million State.

Alternative 7 –

- Biodiversity – Restoration would provide a measurable increase in level of ecosystem restoration and ecological integrity at the system level, at or near the vision for the Illinois River Basin. This level of effort was developed to provide an upper limit of potential restoration considering current political, social, and fiscal constraints.
- Sediment Delivery – Reduce sediment delivery from direct Peoria Lakes tributaries by 40%, other tributaries upstream of Peoria Lakes by 11%, and tributaries downstream of Peoria Lakes by 20%. System benefits include reduced delivery of 20% to Peoria Lakes and 20% system wide.
- Backwaters & Side Channels – Restore 18,000 acres from 60-90 of the approximate 100 backwaters on the system. Dredging would average 200-300 acres per backwater. This would create backwater and overwintering habitat spaced approximately every 3-5 miles along the system. Restoration of 40 side channels and protection of 15 islands.
- Floodplain, Riparian, and Aquatic – Restoration of 150,000 acres of mainstem floodplain (approximately 29.9% of total mainstem floodplain area) would include approximately 63,300 acres wetlands, 50,700 acres forest, and 36,000 acres prairie; tributary restoration of 150,000 acres (approximately 17.6% of total tributary floodplain area) would include approximately 95,200 acres wetlands, 27,800 acres forest, and 27,000 acres prairie; and aquatic restoration would include 1,000 miles of tributary streams (33.3% of the approximately 3,000 miles of channelized streams) with a mix of improved instream aquatic habitat structure and channel remeandering.
- Connectivity – Provide fish passage at all mainstem dams on the Fox River, all dams on the West Branch of the DuPage River, all mainstem dams and one tributary (Salt Creek) of the Des Plaines River, Wilmington and Kankakee Dams on the Kankakee River, Bernadotte Dam on the Spoon River, Aux Sable Dam, and Starved Rock, Marseilles, and Brandon Road Locks and Dams.
- Water Level – Create 250,000 acres of storage area holding approximately 1.5 acre-feet/acre per storm event. Increase water level management at navigation dams with electronic controls and increased gaging. Results include a 15% reduction in the 5-year peak flows in tributaries and approximately a 68% reduction in the occurrence of one-foot fluctuations along the mainstem Illinois River. This alternative also would see benefits accrue from drawdowns in LaGrange or Peoria Pools and replacement of wickets at Peoria and LaGrange with automatic gate dams to eliminate wicket-related fluctuations.
- Water Quality – Anticipate improvements in water quality due to reduced sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen delivery. These improvements would result from sediment delivery reduction measures and water level management measures.

- Cost – The estimated cost for an initial 10-year authorization is $3,400 million; $2,210 million Federal, and $1,190 million State.

OPEN HOUSES HELD AT STUDY'S INITIATION

Seven open houses were held throughout the study area in November and December 2000 and February 2001, with a total of 193 attendees. Study team members from the Department of Natural Resources and the Corps of Engineers were present to discuss the study on a one-on-one basis with the attendees.

Overall, comments were favorable regarding the open house format, displays, and goals of the study team. Ninety-four percent of the public who completed a comment sheet supported ecosystem restoration efforts along the Illinois River and its tributaries. The attendees also felt that (percentages show agreement):

- In the Illinois River Basin, the principal problems limiting aquatic and associated fish and wildlife habitat are:
    - loss of backwaters and side channels due to sedimentation (90%)
    - destabilized tributary streams (87%)
    - changed hydrologic regimes and water fluctuations (80%)

- Study and eventual restoration efforts should focus on:
    - watershed/tributary restoration (80%)
    - side channel and backwater restoration (75%)
    - floodplain restoration and protection (71%)
    - water level management (50%)

DECEMBER 2003 PUBLIC MEETINGS PLANNED

The public is encouraged to attend one of four public meetings being held throughout the study area. The purpose of the meetings is to provide a study update, discuss the draft alternatives being considered at this point in the study and the level of restoration for areas within the Illinois River Basin, and to gather the public's comments on the draft alternatives.

The meetings will be held at the following locations:

Monday, December 1
Knights of Columbus Hall
Route 99 South
Mt. Sterling, Illinois
217/773-4100

Tuesday, December 2
Wildlife Prairie Park
3826 North Taylor Road
Hanna City, Illinois
309/676-0998

Wednesday, December 3
Quality Inn & Suites
800 North Kinzie Avenue
Bradley, Illinois
815/939-3501

Thursday, December 4
Hilton Lisle/Naperville
3003 Corporate West Drive
Lisle, Illinois
630/245-7644

The meeting format will be identical at each location. The afternoon session will be from 2-4 p.m. and the evening session will be from 6-8 p.m., with a break from 4-6 p.m. The afternoon session will be informal, where the public may attend at their convenience. Several displays will be available for viewing and Department of Natural Resources and Corps of Engineers personnel will be present for one-on-one discussions with attendees.

The evening session will consist of a formal presentation beginning at 6 p.m., followed by questions and answers and statements.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend one of the meetings and to provide comments on the draft alternatives.

WHAT'S NEXT?

After this round of public meetings, the next opportunity for public comment will be in spring 2004 when the draft report is released.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS?

If you have technical comments or questions about the Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration Study, please contact Mr. Brad Thompson, Project Manager. Mr. Thompson can be reached by phone at 309/794-5256 or by email at bradley.e.thompson@usace.army.mil.

You may write to Mr. Thompson at the following address:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Rock Island
ATTN: CEMVR-PM-M (Thompson)
Clock Tower Building – P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

The contact for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is Mr. Jim Mick. Mr. Mick can be reached by phone at 309/543-3316 or by email at jmick@dnrmail.state.il.

You may write to Mr. Mick at the following address:

Mr. Jim Mick
Big River Program Administrator
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
700 South 10th Street
Havana, Illinois 62644

If you have questions about the logistical arrangements of the public meetings or if you are aware of someone who has an interest in this study and wishes to be added to the study's mailing list to receive newsletters and future study mailings, please ask him/her to contact Ms. Sue Simmons at 309/794-5573 (suzanne.r.simmons@usace.army.mil).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information on the Illinois River efforts can be found on the Rock Island District webpage at:

http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/ILRiverEco/default.htm